

## D E P A R T M E N T   O F   T H E   I N T E R I O R,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

C O P Y.

WASHINGTON,   FEB.   20,   1890

Hon. Edward O. Leech,

Director of the Mint,

U.S. Treasury Department,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have examined and return herewith the medals which you kindly left with me. As the Indians have expressed a decided preference for circular medals, the Office requests that those struck off be of that shape.

The designs hitherto used for the reverse of the medal do not appropriately represent the present status of the Indian, and in the enclosed rough design an attempt is made to give the idea that he has abandoned his tepee and has adopted a civilized house and avocations. Your professional expert will doubtless find many imperfections in this design which he can remove. I would suggest myself that the house have a chimney in place of the stovepipe and another window, also that the head of the horse project further into the picture.



If your designer can add a school house which will be recognized as a school house without marring the perspective and proportion of the design, and without crowding it, it might be well to insert it. As I understood it, you desire from this Office only a suggestion of the design to be adopted. It is hoped that your designer will be able to greatly improve on the suggestion here made.

Yours respectfully,

R. V. Belt

Acting Commissioner.



NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 162

Department of the Interior,  
Office of Indian Affairs,  
Copy.  
Washington, February 20, 1890

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